

Appl. No. 09/691,634
Amdt. dated May 23, 2006
In Reply to Office Action of Feb. 23, 2006

REMARKS

Claims 1-95 were pending. Claims 10, 11, 13, 51, 52, 54, 65, 74, 75, 77 and 95 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 1, 12, 14, 42, 53, 55, 62, 63, 66, 71, 76, 78 and 80 have been amended without prejudice.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication by the Examiner that claims 22-41 have been allowed.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication by the Examiner that claims 13, 14, 54, 55, 77, 78 and 95 include patentable subject matter.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to include the elements as set forth in claims 10, 11 and 13 and some elements as set forth in claim 12. It is believed that claim 1 and its dependent claims (i.e., claims 2-9, 12 and 14-21) are in condition for allowance.

Independent claim 42 has been amended to include the elements as set forth in claims 51, 52 and 54 and some elements as set forth in claim 53. It is believed that claim 42 and its dependent claims (i.e., claims 43-50, 53 and 55-62) are in condition for allowance.

Independent claim 63 has been amended to include the elements as set forth in claims 65, 74, 75 and 77 and some elements as set forth in claim 76. It is believed that claim 63 and its dependent claims (i.e., claims 64, 66-73, 76, 78 and 79) are in condition for allowance.

Independent claim 80 has been amended to include the elements as set forth in claim 95. It is believed that claim 80 and its dependent claims (i.e., claims 81-94) are in condition for allowance.

Applicants have added new dependent claims 96-130 which depend from independent claims that are believed to be in condition for allowance. Support for the new dependent claims can be found, for example, in the specification at, for example, page 9, lines 25-26; page 11, lines 10-12; page 48, lines 7-8; page 53, lines 5-7.

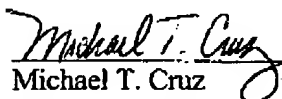
For at least the above reasons, it is believed that claims 1-9, 12, 14-50, 53, 55-64, 66-73, 76, 78-94 and 96-130 are in condition for allowance.

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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge additional fees or credit overpayments to the deposit account of McAndrews, Held & Malloy, Account No. 13-0017.

Date: May 23, 2006

Respectfully submitted,


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